

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-11, 13-15, 17-19, 21-25, 27-29, 31-33, 35-37, and 39-40 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Claims 15, 17-19, 21-25, and 27-28 are amended; and no claims are canceled or added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action Claims 15, 17-19, 21-25, 27 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claims 1, 5, 11, 29, 33 and 37 were allowed; and Claims 15, 17-19, 21-25, 27 and 28 were indicated as including allowable subject matter.

With respect to the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Claims 15, 17-19, 21-25, and 27-28 are amended by the present amendment to clarify the features of the shielding means and covering means. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

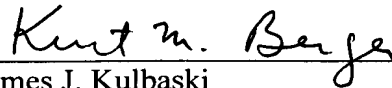
Accordingly, all claims are now in condition for allowance.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



James J. Kulbaski  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 34,648

Customer Number

**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 03/06)

GJM:KMM\la

I:\ATTY\KMM\PROSECUTION WORK\250679\9-13-06 AMENDMENT.DOC

Kevin M. McKinley  
Registration No. 43,794

Kurt M. Berger, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 51,461